

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: AVOIDED COSTS	DOCKET NO. INU-2014-0001
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**ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIALITY
FILED JULY 9, 2014**

(Issued July 18, 2014)

On July 9, 2014, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a request for confidentiality of certain information contained in responses to follow-up questions at an avoided cost workshop held on June 5 and 6, 2014. The information for which confidential treatment is sought includes materials regarding MidAmerican's costs of production. MidAmerican supported the request for confidentiality with an affidavit by a corporate officer. The material for which confidentiality was requested was filed separately and marked confidential. MidAmerican cited Iowa Code §§ 22.7(3) and 22.7(6) (2013) as authority for confidential treatment of the data.

MidAmerican claims the information is a report to a governmental agency that, if released, would give advantage to competitors and serve no public purpose and, therefore, should be held confidential pursuant to § 22.7(6). MidAmerican said that disclosure of information regarding its costs of production would give an unfair advantage to existing and potential electric generators and suppliers and could result in increased costs to MidAmerican's customers.

The information in question qualifies as a report to a government agency. Based on the affidavit supplied by IPL, release of such information would serve no public purpose. Therefore, the Board will hold the information confidential pursuant to Iowa Code § 22.7(6).

The filed information may also be confidential as a trade secret pursuant to Iowa Code §§ 22.7(3) and 550.2(4). However, because the Board finds the information should be held confidential under § 22.7(6), the Board does not reach the question of whether the information is a trade secret or a communication not required by law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The request for confidentiality filed by MidAmerican Energy Company on July 9, 2014, is granted.
2. The filed information shall be held confidential by the Board subject to the provisions of 199 IAC 1.9(8)"b"(3).

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Elizabeth S. Jacobs

ATTEST:

/s/ Joan Conrad
Executive Secretary

/s/ Sheila K. Tipton

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 18th day of July 2014.